

5/17/70

Dear Paul,

It seems I was right in saying we'd soon think of things we should have gone into. You have been gone but a few hours. But before getting into one of these things, let me ask you, please, to duplicate a complete COUP and send it by AO rate, air, to Leigh Anderson, 13 McKinnon Grove, Glenroy, 3046; Victoria, Australia. Under the AO rate, as explained to me at the local P.O., this is a special rate at which books can go, in packages weighing up to but no more than 2lbs 3ozs each, costing 60¢ 1st 2 ozs, 30¢ each add 2 ozs. I believe but am not certain the package cannot be sealed. This means that you need leave only one end open. Australia has an unusual postal money-order system. He has sent me the receipts and our p.o. will send me US postal money orders. This has happened before and I'll be able to repay you as soon as you tell me the cost. It seems that I have given away all the copies of COUP people were kind enough to provide, so I'll need and will be able to pay for two more parts of COUP and COUP II (not new, last ch and app), which will give me two sets. All of these can be-should be-two pages per sheet reproduction. By the way, if the place that duplicates has an efficient hole-punch that will accomodate the standard Acco clip and it represents no great trouble, I'll appreciate it if they two for me could be punched. Until I went to package this for Anderson I didn't realize all the copies were gone, except the two parts of the add. that I have. I write this immediately so that when you have the copy made that Bud is paying for, you can have these done at the same time and save a trip and some trouble. Many thanks.

One of the things I remembered soon after you'd left is a kind of xxx mystery I think it would be well to review in advance of a more thorough N.C. exploration. You have just about all of this, but uncollected. You may recall a series of strange FBI reports I think you or Jim located in all or in part, dealing with people who allegedly saw the ITM picketing and not really carried further. Some do not add up. I have a memo saying just about all those involved seem to have disappeared. One exception is Roberto Martinez Martinez, on whom you have my memo and I have him on tape. He was real shook up and I am inclined to believe his story, but it is denied by, rather disputed by what those at the Reiss Gandy Co. say they recall. The Brother at the refuge became a drunk; Bright disappeared, as did his printing company, etc. Now prior to all of this Orestes interested me in Emilio Lobet and I never did understand why, save that Emilio was allegedly wired both ways and, as a waiter, got around. You have a report on the mysterious way he didn't keep the first date we made. Orestes and I went there for dinner-Andrew Pena's Las Americas, where Emilio worked and then lived over. While we were there, with the place almost empty, two men Orestes identified as Immigration officials in the Customs House, across Decatur from the Habana, came in and sat at the table next to us. Emilio was visibly uneasy. In checking Roberto out, I learned at the Reiss company that he then, 8/63 (payroll records checked) was a co-worker and friend of Roberto M.M. After I interviewed Roberto, right after I was last in Calif, I went back to Emilio's home. He had gone and everyone claimed to know nothing of him or his whereabouts. Rather strange. The reports you have are more detailed.

I cannot pretend to know what this means or to say which version, if either, is correct, but when I add that goobledook FBI "investigation" to it I must assume there are possibilities. I do not think there is the best chance of getting anything from the files, but if the R co. story is correct and the FBI did the most rudimentary checking, they had to have questioned Emilio. If they did the sloppiest job, they also checked on him. At that time he was, allegedly, gay only. He hadn't married. When they were allegedly interested in gays, this should have been of a little more interest, especially because of what no body seems to remember, that there was an immediate such report on LHO, withheld from the ONI file. My source is the ONI officer who made it, Guy Johnson, who also told Bud the same story.

One other strange aspect in which my memory may not be precise: of the two agents who interviewed Roberto M.M., one spoke Spanish. R has not the best command of English. This agent never spoke Spanish to him. R never knew he spoke the language. The interview could have been more productive, certainly shorter, in Spanish.

And again, the addresses fascinate. R lived on Magazine, but not close to LHO, closer to the Quarter. Reiss is very close to Las Americas, on Decatur, between the Wasp Picketing and the 100 block-about 500 block. But he worked nights, so there was no great chance of the R people seeing him. He started work when they finished.

Roberto, by the way, may have been easier to lean on from a previous criminal record he told me about, I think having to do with something maritime or ship-jumping. However, at the time I saw him I'd say he was successful and comfortable in his own small business, I believe painting.

Much of what I picked up and noted is but street stuff and is not to be taken as gospel. However, I think it would be helpful if you and Jim could go over all those memos, make cards on the names, and, after being familiar with them, being alert to any mentions of anything suggesting a connection, like a place of employment, etc.

All this has been out of my mind for so long...

Wish we'd had more time together.

Best,